

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 215

By McDonald

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Mr. Alex Kiss upon his induction into the Tennessee Soccer Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those citizens who, through unwavering dedication and unflagging commitment to excellence, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Mr. Alex Kiss, who was inducted into the Tennessee Soccer Hall of Fame in Cleveland on February 24, 2007, a most befitting recognition of his outstanding service to Tennessee soccer; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kiss is one of only two people inducted into the Hall of Fame for 2006; he was chosen for his contributions as a referee; and

WHEREAS, a state emeritus referee, Alex Kiss is heavily involved in the soccer program in White House; he is also a vice commander in the American Legion; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kiss began playing soccer at the end of World War II in his native Hungary; due to the absence of livestock at that time, he recalls making his own soccer balls out of foam rubber and playing barefoot; and

WHEREAS, Alex Kiss was recruited to play for the Budapest Honved Sports Club, in which he flourished until the Hungarian Revolution swept the country in 1956; and

WHEREAS, after immigrating to the United States in 1957, Mr. Kiss joined the United States Army and assembled a team within his company; he coached that team to many victories; and

WHEREAS, Alex Kiss' contributions to Middle Tennessee soccer began in 1959, when he assisted in the formation of the Vanderbilt Soccer Club; comprised of players from all over

the world, the team grew to become the Nashville Internationals and competed throughout the Southeast; and

WHEREAS, by 1975, Mr. Kiss had transitioned from a soccer player to a referee, officiating youth matches; and

WHEREAS, in 1982, he received state certification allowing him to referee professional matches; during the 1980s, he began training referees, a pursuit he still enjoys today; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kiss' perseverance, dedication, and inspiration as a player, a coach, a referee, and a trainer of referees have earned him the respect and gratitude of his peers, coaches, players, and community; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Alex Kiss for his dedication to the State of Tennessee, its citizens, and the sport of soccer; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we join with the family, friends, and colleagues of Mr. Alex Kiss in congratulating him upon his induction into the Tennessee Soccer Hall of Fame, honor and commend Mr. Kiss for his substantial legacy as a player, coach, referee, and trainer, and offer our thanks for the dedication that he has shown our State.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.